

even possible to diagnose Alzheimer's with more than 90 percent accuracy. It is clear that Alzheimer's does not discriminate on whom it affects, regardless of gender, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, political ideology or if one worked the fields, in the factories or in the Oval Office.

With now more than 4.5 million people suffering from this disease, the upsetting effects of Alzheimer's is growing faster than modern medicine can manage. This is only likely to become more complicated with the aging of the baby boomers, boosting the number of Alzheimer's patients to an astounding 11 to 16 million people by the middle of the century.

As a way to honor President Reagan, let us make the greatest commitment that we can to real investment in research for Alzheimer's disease and follow through with clinical trials to translate the research into treatments. We must now act to make the lives of all Alzheimer's patients more comfortable with a better quality of life, while hopefully being able to prevent this disease in the future.

Mr. President, as one might say in a western movie, you had a good ride and our country is proud to say, "Much obliged."

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. GALLEGLY).

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS) for bringing this resolution to the floor today.

President Reagan's impact on America and the world is immeasurable. He ended the Cold War and restored America's confidence. His Republican administration rebuilt our economy with the help and support of a Democratic House of Representatives.

President Reagan achieved such successes because when you sat in a room with him, there could be over 1,000 people in the room, yet you felt like there was only the two of you, and his wonderful wit would put you at ease. That was a tremendous gift.

That is why some of his biggest political enemies were among his closest personal friends. It is why a staunch anti-Communist could negotiate with the President of the Soviet Union. President Reagan reached across and President Reagan connected with people.

President Reagan is now at rest. We mourn his passing, but we are grateful for the gifts he gave us: a safer world, strong economic base, and a renewed belief in America's greatness.

Mr. Speaker, President Reagan will be laid to rest at his Presidential library in Simi Valley, California. It is where I began my political career as mayor and city councilman. It has been my home for more than 35 years.

President Reagan often spoke about a shining city on a hill. The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library is such a place. President Reagan will be laid to rest at the edge of a high hill where his

library stands. His grave overlooks the farmlands, ranches and chaparral of the Tierra Rejada Valley. On a clear day, one can see the Channel Islands in the Pacific Ocean more than 30 miles away. It is a fitting place for America's greatest son.

Mr. Speaker, it is the end of an era, but it is the beginning of a legacy that will last forever. We will miss him.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KLINE). The gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM) is recognized as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. SCOTT).

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today we remember a true leader, a statesman and a great man who led our country with dignity, with grace and with strength. President Reagan was the quintessential American who exemplified unbridled optimism, a strong sense of faith and the idea that our Nation was a true beacon for the world.

There is no doubt that among his greatest achievements was his resolve to end the Cold War so that other Nations could experience the glory of freedom and the power of democracy. His combination of political strength and personal appeal, his ability to communicate set the forces in motion for the walls of communism to crumble, and for this he will always be remembered.

However, President Reagan should also be remembered, especially in this House, for his willingness to fight in the political arena with dignity, with respect for his opponents, and his strong belief that democracy was for all of our citizens, even those with whom he might have disagreed. President Reagan exemplified civility and honor in an arena that is often lacking in both, and because of that he earned the goodwill not only of his supporters, but often of his friendly adversaries. In the end we remember a man, Ronald Reagan, not only as a great leader, but as a good and decent man.

My condolences and prayers are with his family and with his wife Nancy, who shared him with our country.

Mr. Speaker, we are all called by God for a special purpose with this turn at light that he gives us. Some nobility of purpose is embedded in each of us with that calling, and as it is the case with Ronald Reagan, there will be on his tombstone 1911 to 2004, but the most important thing on his tombstone will be the dash in between. For the fundamental call from God is always what will we do with the dash.

Ronald Reagan did great things with his dash. For those 93 years in that dash was actor, head of a union, broke down the barriers of communism, the Star Wars defense system, his legacy of rebuilding the Republican Party.

Yes, Ronald Reagan was a great man, and he, as so many of us, have heeded the call, and as I think of Ronald Reagan, I am reminded of the great prophet Isaiah who said in that great

conversation when God called and said, who will go for us and whom shall we send, that great prophet Isaiah said, at no hesitation, here I am, Lord, send me.

Ronald Reagan responded the same way. I can almost see it. When the Lord called and said, who will go for us and who will we send to perform that nobility of purpose in life that Ronald Reagan did, which is the legacy of his Presidency, I can see him getting to attention and saying, here I am, Lord, send me.

God bless Ronald Reagan.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to yield 6 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS), the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means.

(Mr. THOMAS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, we are all going to talk about President Reagan, Commander-in-Chief Reagan, leader of the free world Reagan. Some of us were privileged to know him in a different context. My friend from California (Mr. LEWIS), the chairman, has talked about his relationship with him when he was Governor of California.

I knew him in a number of different contexts, and I was always amazed at one thing, and that was he was the same person regardless of the context in which you met him, worked with him and was led by him.

In 1974, I decided that I would run for public office. He was then in the last year of his governorship, and he decided to come to Bakersfield, and so I planned an event for the Governor. We decided that we would charge what seemed to be an appropriate amount, \$25 a head, and almost 500 people came to see the Governor. I had no doubts about why they were coming.

We picked him up at the airport, and when we got in the car, he started quizzing me about me, and so I was visiting with him. But as we got closer, I said, well, do you want to take just a little time now so that you can get ready for the event? He said, Bill, if I am not ready now, 5 minutes will not make any difference.

□ 1945

He was always prepared. He was always on time, whether it was a minor event or if it was a debate with other leaders of the world.

And you see him in a bunch of different contexts and you say, well, of course, because he was a movie star and he is supposed to carry himself. And the point I want to make, if I do not make any other point, is he was that way because of who he was, not because of what he did. Because, frankly, if you tried to write a script and went to Hollywood on Ronald Reagan's life, you would last about 2 minutes in the room. Because people are willing to suspend belief, but not that much.

And what I like most about the juxtaposition of Ronald Reagan and his